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hours a large number of sperms are thus slowly ingested, and the egg will take no more till the following day, when a second feeding may occur if sperm is offered; even a third was once accomplished when the eggs were kept alive long enough.

From preserved eggs the author gathers that the ingested sperms pass slowly through the egg *into the nucleus*, and are there resolved into granules distributed along the nuclear network.

The inference is drawn that normal maturation, the formation of polar bodies, by removing nuclear matter, lessens the digestive power of the egg, so that it takes in but one sperm and does not digest it! The chematropism of egg and sperm is but a form of that of animal for food. We are even asked to follow the idea that all psychic processes are but expressions and consequences of nutritional processes.

E. A. A.

Zöological Notes. — R. Collett (*Bergens Museums Aarborg* for 1897) gives an interesting account of the present and past distribution and of the habits of the beaver in Norway. A summary in English and numerous photographs of beaver lodges, nests, and young make the results accessible to the general reader. Owing to the protection furnished by the game laws, these animals increased in number from 60 in 1880 to 100 in 1883, and have since held their own, or perhaps gained.

In the last number of the *Archives de Parasitologie*, Blanchard presents a valuable and interesting summary of the cases of pseudoparasitism in man on the part of various Myriapods. All of the 35 authentic cases, among them 6 entirely new, are reported in full. In 27 cases the animal was located in the nasal fossæ or their connecting cavities, while in 8 cases it came from the alimentary canal. In about half the instances the species was accurately determined.

G. Schwalbe (*Morph. Arbeiten*, Bd. VIII, Heft 2, p. 341, 1898) gives an account of his studies on the supposed open rudimentary marsupial pouches of certain ungulates. His attention was directed to the embryos of the sheep and a species of antelope. He concludes that these pockets, which are quite well developed in sheep embryos, are in no sense homologous with the true marsupium, but that they have a very different origin.

The Graeffe-Saemisch Handbook is announced in a revised edition by Engelmann under the editorship of Professor Saemisch of Bonn. The first part of the new work is to consist of three volumes on the anatomy and physiology of the eye; the second part, of nine volumes on the pathology and therapeutics of this organ. The large number and high standing of the collaborators give promise of a speedy and satisfactory performance of the work. Volumes, or parts of volumes, will be sold separately.

The rich collection of cetacean embryos made some years ago by Professor Kükenthal is being put to good use, as shown by the last number of *Jenaische Zeitschrift* (Bd. XXXII, Heft 1 and 2), which is made up of the following articles based on a study of this material: F. Jungklaus, The Stomach of the Cetaceans; O. Müller, Researches on the Alterations which the Mammalian Respiratory Organs have undergone in Adaptation to Water Life; W. Daudt, Contributions to our Knowledge of the Urogenital Apparatus of the Cetaceans.

In the *Festschrift til Kong Oskar II*, Dr. Guldberg publishes the results of his investigation on the asymmetry of the higher vertebrates. Osteometric statistics, as well as data from the weight of the musculature of opposite sides of the body, indicate the occurrence of a morphological asymmetry in birds, in many mammals, and in man. This asymmetry is least at birth and increases with age; it finds its physiological expression in the tendency to move in a circle. Compensated and crossed asymmetry are of frequent occurrence.

The Organs of Respiration of the Oniscidæ are described by Professor J. H. Stoller in *Zoologica.* He finds the gills to be homologous with those of aquatic isopods, but adapted to breathing atmospheric air. A respiratory tree, resembling the tracheæ of insects, is bathed by the blood which is brought to the gills. Adaptations for the prevention of the desiccation of the blood are found, and there is no mechanism for forcible inspiration and expiration of the air.

The Parasites of the Flamingo have recently been studied in Tunis by Dr. M. Lühe (*Situngsb. Pr. Akad. Wiss.*, Vol. XL, pp. 619–628), who has found *Tænia lamelligera* Owen, which Diamare made the type of a new genus, Amabilia. Three species of Drepanodotænia were also found: *Tænia liguloides* Gerv., and its immature form, which proved to be identical with *T. Caroli* Par., and *T. megalorchis* and *T. ischnorhynchan.* sp. In the same host *Monostoma attenuatum* Rud. was present in the cæcum, and the new species *Distomum michropharyngeum* in the gall bladder, and *Echinostomum thœnicopteri* in the small intestine. From the civet-cat two new forms of Dipylidium, *D. triseriale* and *D. monoophorum*, were secured.

The specimens of Mermis in the Kgl. Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin have recently been studied by von Linstow (*Arch. mikr. Anat.*, Vol. LIII, pp. 149–168), who gives an extended taxonomic account of the genus, followed by a discussion of anatomical and histological features. In the last three lines of the paper and all too easily overlooked comes the establishment of a new genus for those species, *M. crassa* and *M. aquatilis*, which are characterized by the possession of only a single spicule.

Dr. Saint-Remy has added a complement to his valuable synopsis of the monogenetic Trematods (*Arch. Parasitol.*, Vol. I, No. 4, pp. 521–571). The present paper is a revision of the synopsis, including all new matter since 1891, and is a most welcome contribution to our knowledge of this important group of parasitic worms. Forty-nine species have been added and a new key prepared.

Indo-Malayan Landplanarians are brought together in a synoptical table or key for easy determination by von Graff (*Ann. Jardin Bot. Buitenzorg*, Supp. II, pp. 113–127). About 35 per cent of all known species are found in this region.

Dr. N. A. Cobb has added another to his series of studies on the free-living Nematoda (*Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W.*, Vol. XXIII, No. 91, pp. 383–407), adding seventeen new species to the worm fauna of Australia. All of the forms are from Port Jackson.

The Leeches of the U. S. National Museum have been studied by J. Percy Moore (*Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, Vol. XXI, pp. 545–563), and of the small national collection, consisting of species from all parts, six are described as new.

Hypodermic Impregnation has been observed by Dr. E. G. Gardiner in the acoelous turbellarian *Polychœrus caudatus* (*Journ. Morph.*, Vol. XV, No. 1), thus adding another to the list of forms in which impregnation of this sort occurs.

The Earthworms of Japan are being studied by S. Goto and S. Hatai, the first of a series of papers being devoted to seventeen species of Perichæta (*Annot. Zool. Japon.*, Vol. II, No. 3).

Dr. R. S. Bergh in *Fauna Chilensis* reports upon the opisthobranchiate mollusca collected by Dr. Plate on the western coast of South America. A number of forms described fifty years ago by D'Orbigny from this locality are again brought to light, together with twelve new species.

Poisonous serpents are said not to exist in New Caledonia, contrary to the statement of Hoffmann in Bronn's *Thierreich.* Dr. Trouessart (*Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, Vol. XXIII, No. 11) believes that *Neelaps caledonicus* was derived by Hoffmann by misreading Günther's *Neelaps calonatus* from New Grenada.

The Zoantharia of the Magellanic Region have been reported on by Dr. O. Carlgren, and published by Friederichsen & Co. of Hamburg under the general title of *Hamburger Magelhaensische Sammelreise.* Thirteen new species and three new genera are described.

A new enemy to the grasshoppers, which for several years have been devasting Argentina, has developed in the shape of a scarabrid beetle belonging to the genus Frox, which has taken to eating the eggs.

Albinism in a squirrel is illustrated by photographs in *Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, Vol. XXIII, No. 11, by L. Petit, in the case of a brown squirrel which is about 50 per cent albino and nearly evenly marked.

Mr. W. S. Calman has published an exhaustive review of the literature on the reproduction of the Rotifera in *Natural Science.*

BOTANY.

Vines's Text-Book.[1] — In scope and bulk intermediate between Professor Vines's *Students' Text-Book of Botany* and the English edition of Prantl's *Elementary Text-Book*, this volume treats of the morphology, anatomy, physiology, and classification of plants in a clear and understandable way, and the illustrations, many of which are familiar to users of text-books, are in the main well selected.

T.

The Teacher's Leaflets, chiefly on nature-study, issued by the Agricultural Experiment Station of Cornell University, are admirably plain and direct presentations of everyday phenomena, the understanding of which is obscured by many of the more learned treatises. How a squash plant gets out of the seed, How a candle burns, Four apple twigs, How the trees look in winter, A children's garden, Some tent-makers, What is nature-study? Hint on making collec-

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[1] Vines, S. H. *An Elementary Text-Book of Botany.* London, Swan Sonnenschein & Co. New York, The Macmillan Company. 611 pp., 397 ff. Price $2.25.